

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6162

BILL NUMBER: HB 1151

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 5, 2013

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Blue Alert Program.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. McNamara

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Grooms

BILL STATUS: As Passed House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill creates the Blue Alert program to notify the public when a law enforcement officer is killed, seriously injured, or missing in the line of duty. It requires the Indiana State Police (ISP) to operate the program.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary:* The bill would require the ISP to do the following to operate a Blue Alert program:

- Determine the geographic boundaries for area of a Blue Alert.
- The ISP Superintendent would designate staff responsible for the operation of the Blue Alert program.
- Adopt guidelines for the operation and administration of Blue Alert program including receiving and verifying information.
- Adopt guidelines for use of voluntary broadcast of Blue Alerts by networks and electronic billboard operators.

Operation of the Blue Alert program would represent an additional workload on the ISP. However, the ISP could likely adopt the guidelines necessary for the operation of a Blue Alert program within the ISP's existing level of resources. Additional resources to meet the requirements of the bill could be supplied through existing staff and resources currently being used in another program or with new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend on further legislative and

administrative actions.

Background Information- The ISP currently operates the Silver Alert program (for missing and endangered adults). When the Silver Alert program was established, the ISP used existing resources, including staff, to implement and operate the program. The ISP currently has two staff members assigned to the operation of the Silver Alert program. However, Silver Alert operations are only part of those staff members' responsibilities with the ISP. There has been some grant funding for the program in the past.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Local law enforcement agencies that request a blue alert would be required by the bill to report the information in an issued blue alert to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). It is likely local law enforcement departments would be able to send informational reports to the NCIC within the normal operations of these departments.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana State Police.

Local Agencies Affected: Local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Senior Trooper Tamara Watson, Legislative Liaison, Indiana State Police.

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.